

# SENATE BILL No. 81

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 33-23-3-3; IC 33-38-15.

**Synopsis:** Senior judges and judges pro tempore. Allows: (1) a senior judge; or (2) a judge pro tempore; serving in a county that has more than one superior court judge to, with the consent of any judge of a superior court in the county, sit as the judge of the superior court in any matter as if the senior judge or judge pro tempore were the elected judge or appointed judge of the superior court. Provides that a judge pro tempore may serve as a judge of a superior court regardless of whether the appointed or elected judge of the superior court is present and available in the building that contains the superior court.

**Effective:** July 1, 2016.

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## Young R Michael

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January 5, 2016, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary.

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Second Regular Session 119th General Assembly (2016)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2015 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 81

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning courts and court officers.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 33-23-3-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2016]: Sec. 3. **(a)** A senior judge:

3 (1) exercises the jurisdiction granted to the court served by the  
4 senior judge;

5 (2) may serve as a domestic relations mediator, subject to the  
6 code of judicial conduct;

7 (3) serves at the pleasure of the supreme court; and

8 (4) serves in accordance with rules adopted by the supreme court  
9 under IC 33-24-3-7.

10 A senior judge serving as a domestic relations mediator is not entitled  
11 to reimbursement or a per diem under section 5 of this chapter. A  
12 senior judge serving as a domestic relations mediator may receive  
13 compensation from the alternative dispute resolution fund under  
14 IC 33-23-6 in accordance with the county domestic relations alternative  
15 dispute resolution plan.

16 **(b) A senior judge appointed to serve in a county that has more**  
17 **than one (1) superior court judge may, with the consent of any**



1 judge of a superior court in the county, sit as the judge of the  
2 superior court in any matter as if the senior judge were the elected  
3 judge or appointed judge of the superior court.

4 SECTION 2. IC 33-38-15 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
5 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
6 JULY 1, 2016]:

7 **Chapter 15. Judges Pro Tempore**

8 **Sec. 1.** A judge pro tempore serving in a county that has more  
9 than one (1) superior court judge may, with the consent of any  
10 judge of a superior court in the county, sit as the judge of the  
11 superior court in any matter as if the judge pro tempore were the  
12 elected judge or appointed judge of the superior court.

13 **Sec. 2.** A judge pro tempore may serve as a judge of a superior  
14 court regardless of whether the appointed or elected judge of the  
15 superior court is present and available in the building that contains  
16 the superior court.

